Message Text

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UNCLAS TOKYO 0425

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD

SUBJECT: JAPAN ADVERTISING - FY74

SUMMARY: OUTLINES CURRENT STATUS OF TRAVEL ADVERTISING IN JAPAN

TYOWAS 4-146 RE WASTYO 4-134-ED AND JAN 3 MEMO TO OLLENDORFF FROM RIEGNER. AFTER FAIRLY DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH JAL, U S CARRIERS, WHOLESALERS, EMBASSY, Y&R AND OTHERS, WE CONCLUDE THAT GOJ SUGGESTED BOLUNTARY ADVERTISING RESTRAINTS AFFECT JAL AND JAPANESE WHOLESALERS MORE SEVERELY THAN FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS ESPECIALLY FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TOURISM OFFICES. U S CARRIERS CONTINUE TO ADVERTISE WITHOUT SEEMING REPERCUSSION. WHOLESALERS STRONGLY CONSISDERING ADVERTISING APPRACH WITH SLIGHTLY PUBLIC SERVICE TWIST SUCH AS "TRAVEL TO USA IN GROUPS, ITS LESS EXPENSIVE AND SAVES FUEL."

RUMORS IN TRAVEL TRADE CIRCLES HAVE IT THAT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT REQUEST FOR VOLUNTARY ADVERTISING RESTRAINS WEREN BY SELF-ADMISSION, PREMATURE. TRAVEL TRADE IS DEVELOPING COMSENSUS THAT DESTINATION ADVERTISING DESIGNED TO MAINTAIN CURRENT LEVEL OF OUTBOUND TOURISMWILL BE ALLOWED.

IN LIGHT OF ABOVE AND DUE TO APPROVAL OF USTS SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET WE REQUEST APPROVAL TO PARTICIPATE IN READERS DIGEST JAPAN CAMPAIGN.

WE AND EMBASSY CONCLUDE THAT IT WOUD PRESENTLY BE COUNTER EFFECTIVE TO PURSUE THE PRINCIPLE OF RECIPROCITY ON THE MATTER OF ADVERTISING SINCE THE ISSUE AT LEAST MOMENTARILY SEEMS TO BE FADING.

SHOESMITH

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